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Sep 5th 2018

Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

As a residential consumer who uses unbundled copper and inter-city fiber transport elements (UNEs), I am strongly opposed to USTelecom's petition which would essentially shut out smaller service providers who do, in fact, make use of UNEs. This petition is, at its heart, an attempt to create a monopoly that is composed of the nation's largest incumbent carriers and shut out any competition. When I used AT&T as my internet and local telephone provider, the internet service was generally slow and unreliable and the telephone service was of uneven quality. Repeated service calls to my provider did not improve either the quality or reliability of the service. After many years with AT&T, the situation did not improve. In fact, it was gradually getting worse and worse. It was only when I switched to Sonic, a relatively small provider of UNEs, that the quality, speed, and reliability of my internet and telephone service improved dramatically and has remained highly reliable. In the time that I have been using Sonic for both telephone and internet service, they have been front and center in providing high quality services that have been trouble free. Quite a different story from my long years with AT&T.

I urge you to support smaller, local broadband providers like Sonic, who use UNEs and are thereby providing diversity and high quality choice in the highly competitive internet service. Please reject the petition from USTelecom which would crush smaller, high quality competition.

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